

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Serial No.** : 09/883,467 **Confirmation No.** : 2685  
**Applicant(s)** : Tsutomu TAKAYAMA  
**Filed** : June 14, 2001  
**Title** : SIGNAL PROCESSING METHOD, SIGNAL PROCESSING APPARATUS,  
AND IMAGE READING APPARATUS

**Art Unit** : 2624  
**Examiner** : Patrick L. Edwards

**Docket No.** : 1232-4724  
**Customer No.** : 27123

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated November 9, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as indicated below.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper; and

**Remarks** begin on page 27 of this paper.